

A MAN OF THE PEOPLE.

How Hopewell H. Darneille Attained Power and Place Faithful to Every Trust and Generous to the Unfortunate.

A figure upon whom the goddess of success has smiled sweetly and approved bounteously, is Hopewell H. Darneille, assessor of the District of Columbia. We agree with a sunny writer who suggested that his Christian name might have been, with equal propriety and fitness "Hopful," for the cares of state rest lightly upon his broad shoulders and the vexations that attend all public or private responsibilities produce no visible effect upon his good nature.

His success is not due to luck. It has not been reached by a single flight—but step by step he has climbed upward, clinching each round by the conscientious performance of the duty that



MR. H. H. DARNEILLE.

was assigned to him. For the past fifteen years he has been in the service of the District government. His first position was messenger in the Lower House of Congress for two sessions, afterwards becoming private secretary to Representatives Plum and Bean. His secretaryship lasted until 1886, when he accepted the position of messenger to the District Commissioners. Mr. Darneille is very young, a bit over thirty perhaps, certainly the youngest man who has ever occupied this position. His rise has been steady and due altogether to merit. From a messenger he was given a small clerkship and steadily promoted. After a term he was made pay-clerk of the auditor's office, at a compensation of \$1,400. When the position was first offered to him he refused to accept the increased pay, because an old soldier, Major W. H. Brierley, who held the position, would be reduced to Mr. Darneille's old position. Major Brierley had a large family to support, and the decreased salary would have meant privation. The District Commissioners, upon Mr. Darneille's earnest request, allowed the veteran to remain. This arrangement continued until Mr. Brierley's death in 1890, when Mr. Darneille was substantially recognized and given the position and pay which he had formerly refused. A year later he was again promoted to full disbursing officer, his compensation being \$2,500. Now he has been made an assessor at a salary of \$3,500, a position requiring intelligence and great tact. He is a product of our public schools and also a graduate of Columbian University Law School. Mr. Darneille is well qualified to gauge public opinion. He endorses the idea of amalgamating the Board of Trade and the Business Men's Association. He believes that it would give added impetus to needed legislation as a result of united action. He doesn't believe in the suggestion of a single District Commissioner. "The question of fixing the responsibility of any action of the Commissioners is not a difficult problem," said Mr. Darneille, "if those interested will make the effort."

Though called upon to draw up a personal tax bill, he is opposed to the personal tax in the District, as it would bear most heavily upon the poor man, and permit the rich to escape, by devious ways, the proportionate share of the burden of taxation. His sympathies are always with the unfortunate, and his generosity to the needy and his consider-

ation for individuals in his employ are proverbial. He is a friend to the Negro, but bestows his favors with a delicacy that could not humiliate the proudest. An instance worthy of citation is his kindness to George Gray, deceased, who was a messenger in his office, and to whom he extended every encouragement and courtesy. He visited Gray's home when he learned of the latter's sudden death, assisted the widow, sent flowers for the casket and attended the funeral. A feature of Mr. Darneille's splendid address before the Second Baptist Lyceum was his touching tribute to the memory of George Gray.

Mr. Darneille belongs to a fine old Virginia family, and is a typical exponent of the big-hearted semi-southerner who measures men by worth and capacity and who place character before color or condition. If all humanity treats this magnificent young chieftain as well as he treats them, there is nothing too good for him in the storehouse of the future.

DO WE TALK TOO MUCH?

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the news columns of the public press.

But after making all due allowances for the helpful and corrective influences of those who have earned the right to be our spokesmen in the forum of public discussion, is it still true that we are too much in evidence? Is it a fact that our frequent and persistent challenges to those who are writing us down in every way possible may tend to excite resentments and increase the number of those who either fear or hate the Negro?



FANNIE BARRIER WILLIAMS.

It seems to be the better opinion always that no harm can come from an honest and intelligent discussion, especially as a means of defense. In this country the Negro's cause, like every other cause, must be fought out in the forum of public opinion.

The worst possible conditions of the Negro race in this country are generally known. Everything that is to our detriment is understood, so that public discussion cannot reveal anything in the nature of dark secrets. Our ignorance, our poverty, our dependence, our uncomeliness and our immoralities are all well known, but the many good and hopeful things are unknown and not believed in by the great majority of the people who make public opinion. It would seem that these conditions would justify all that has been well said in our behalf by our own writers. Making a place for ourselves is largely in our own hands, and one of the first things to be accomplished is to make the American people know and believe that there are splendid separations among the colored people and that there is an ever increasing number of Negroes who because of their culture and achievements are deserving of a better estimate and consideration than is now accorded them. Almost the only means we have for cultivating this better opinion is through the various forms of current literature.

I think it can be fairly claimed that the reading public has developed a relish for the things written by our own writers. While we have as yet no "popular writer," as that term is understood, the constituency of those who are now counted among the literary men of the country, is constantly widening.

An inquiry at the most ordinary, or the best book stores will prove to us that "The Marrow of Tradition," "Up From Slavery," and the works of Dunbar are among the best selling books of the

times. Evidently those authors cannot be said to have "talked too much."

FANNIE BARRIER WILLIAMS.
Chicago, Ill.

Mayor Low's mistake.

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aid in the most trying hours. So great was the interest in the colored schools of this city that the common council, May 10th, 1824, visited and made a most gratifying report of their progress. People of every faith and of every party seem ever to have shown a most friendly interest in our education. When we note that we have steadily advanced, notwithstanding the continual accretion to the city's population and body politic, of so many thousands from unfriendly districts, only shows the powerful and lasting influence of citizens of noble natures, noble lives, imperishable, undying, everlasting.

THE HARVEST AWAITETH.

Thirty-five years ago I was among the number who left these parts to establish schools in those parts of our country where the public school was new to our race. To-day, and long since, those very parts are sending to us teachers, occupying the highest places within the gift of the State. Teachers of our own race in over-abundance may be had there, and it is only a pity indeed the Federal government has not employed them in instructing the dark races of our newly acquired islands, affording them that employment abroad that is denied to so many at home, besides affording a quicker method and more lasting results in making American citizens, in full sympathy with American institutions.

The growing intercourse between America and the older countries of Europe as well as with the still older countries of Asia; the addition to our own possessions of islands teeming with dark-skinned races, cannot but help influence American opinion in our behalf; and this, the great center of foreign intercourse, must bring to us here, first of all our race in America, as already in our public schools, evidences of advancement.

You who honor me by your presence are the successors and direct representatives of the power that has made all these things possible; that has made it possible for your several representatives in the school board to accomplish so much. Your accomplishments in the line of your profession, covering all the years since the first "School for children of African descent," was established in 1784, and the gratifying progress made by both pupils and teachers, has won for the race credit for ability, that a fair-minded community has recognized by your advancement, and it is gratifying to me indeed to "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

What They Say of Us

Rev. L. G. Jordan, secretary of the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, whose admirable labors for the race are yielding rich fruit, writes a letter full of encouragement. Among other things he says:

My Dear Brother:—We have just read your latest issue with great interest and noted especially what you ably said, touching the "Texas Steer." It is to be hoped that the future Negro will get out of turning his guns on his fellow helper instead of those who seek to annihilate us. It seems the effort of the other people, the world over is, to keep the Negro at war with himself; and we have done that so long that many of us are out of our elements at anything else. * * * Sorry to learn through your columns that you had a fall on the ice. I hope you are still as sober and steady as when I knew you in Indianapolis, for you have, indeed been a source of inspiration to the Negro journals in this and other countries.

Says Editor A. P. Hood in the Mound Bayou (Miss.) Demonstrator:

"We cannot see the controversy between the distinguished editors of the COLORED AMERICAN and the Dallas Express in any other light than as an unfortunate affair. Pity, truly, that such a quarrel could have arisen between these two editors, both of whom have won such signal distinction in the field of journalism."

It takes two to make a quarrel. You will observe that the COLORED AMERICAN is not insisting upon having the last word.

WHEN LEARNING

LEARN THE BEST.

Dress Making School.

MRS. L. R. Clark, principal of the Livingston School of Dress Making, a No. 1439 W Street Northwest Washington, has a fine school, and we advise all those who wish to learn this valuable trade to go to her school. She is a fine teacher and a credit to her race. Her terms are reasonable, and all her scholars who have graduated from her school are making a success as dress makers.

She has the only school of its kind in the city. The improved French drafting machine is the most wonderful achievement of mathematical skill for cutting ladies' and children's garments. It is not difficult to learn, as it does not require any complicated figuring.

Special lessons given in the Art of Ladies' Tailoring, also in blending colors. Young men are taught Ladies' Tailoring at this school.

Class for young men from 2:30 to 5:30 p m Thursday 9:30 to 1:30 a m Saturdays.

For information call at the school. Persons desiring to learn the art of making altering and trimming hats are taught the same while taking the course in dress making. This, however, is paid for independent of dress making. Mrs. M. Underdown of Cincinnati, who is a graduate of Armour Institute of Chicago, will instruct in this branch of the work.

MRS. L. R. CLARKE,
Principal

THE KEYSTONE PARK.

The Keystone Park, Suitland, Md., will be open and ready for business June 1st. A commodious house with large and improved premises, plenty of fresh water with garden and chickens where a number of select couples or people can be accommodated. Everything is strictly first-class. The Route 42 Cars run to the new Pennsylvania ave., bridge and for those who drive, follow the straight road and watch the signs. Private parties will be met at the bridge conveyances. For those who desire to spend the heated term arrangements will be made for trips morning and evening.

For further information apply at 443 1st st., s w

Lost Relative

WANTED—To know the whereabouts of David Walker, who is a sailor by occupation and lives or did in Boston, Mass., up until a few years ago. He was an active Mason and belonged to the Blue Lodge No. 4 or 5. The colored Masons in Boston will please make inquiries. Information sent to William Walker, 131 First St. S. W., Washington, D. C. will be gratefully received.

FOR RENT—Three unfurnished rooms with use of kitchen. All modern improvements. 1035 17th Street, Northwest.

An Unique Trade Dollar.

A unique trade dollar containing a dagueratype picture of a lady wearing a sailor hat. It was given by mistake to a Pullman porter going from Jersey City to Philadelphia in 1886 or 1887. After this date a reward of \$100 was offered for it. The same can be had by addressing "N" care The Colored American, Washington, D. C.

WANTED A POSITION.

A respectable young widow who is industrious and willing to work desires a position as a helper or maid. Call at 228 Mass. Ave., N. E.

DRESS MAKING ACADEMY.

The de Lam Orton Famous French Perfection Tailor System Mme J. A. Smallwood, Sole Agent 1618 Madison street, northwest, Morning class from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m. Afternoon class 2 to 5 p. m. daily. Evenings from 7:30 to 10 o'clock. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, dress-makers and ladies who wish to do their own dressmaking.

WANTED—To learn the wonderful De Lam Orton French Perfection Tailor System. Seamless Basques without one inch of visible seam, in lining or goods, not even on the shoulder. Successful dressmaking requires as much earnest progressive study as successful work in any of the professions. No detail is too small to be looked after. We teach you to make dresses with or without seam and guarantee perfect fits, and complete your course with a diploma.

Pupils can enter at any time.

Wanted Rooms.

If you have a spare room that you would like to rent to desirable parties, advertise them in The Colored American.

WANTED—A gentleman in the department desires room and board in a first class private family. Is willing to pay first rate for a home-like place. Address B care this office.

MISS A. L. TILGHMAN

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

Thorough and systematic training in instrumental and vocal music. Special attention given to pupils in the primary course, and those wishing to prepare themselves for concerts or any public or parlor entertainment. "Miss Tilghman is an accomplished musician and has devoted many years to the study of music."—Our Woman and Children. "Miss A. L. Tilghman has proven herself to be thoroughly versed in teaching."—Odd Fellows' Journal. Apply

806 M Street, Northwest.

COTTAGES FOR SALE.

Four desirable Cottages on Jefferson Street, between Washington and La Fayette Streets. In the very best locality, newly painted and papered all the latest improvements on easy terms. For further particulars address J. Harry Hughes Cape May, N. J.

LADIES

NEEDING CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT.

relief in all female troubles, constipation, irregularities, &c. A gold medal awarded for the science of obstetrics from University of Munich, Bavaria. Separate rooms for Ladies before and during confinement. Infants adopted. Strictly private. MRS. DR. RENNER. Office Hours, 10 A M to 6 P M. 402 Sixth Street, northwest, Washington, D. C.